

# St. Edmund Arrowsmith

EASTER DAY

20 APRIL 2014



## Responsorial Psalm

This day was made by the Lord;  
we rejoice and are glad.

## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ, our passover, has been sacrificed;  
Let us celebrate the feast then, in the Lord.  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL REFLECTION

When we celebrate Easter we hold the memory of God's great act in raising Jesus from the dead. We believe that God's graciousness will be extended to ourselves and that our own death will not be the final word. Our faith educates our hope that we will share in Jesus' resurrection on the last day. When we look at today's world we see so much suffering and violence, which continues to disfigure so many people. There are people in our churches today who still bear the wounds of suffering and anxiety in all kinds of different ways. What does the resurrection of Jesus say to all this? The challenge of Easter today is to understand the history of human suffering in the light of Jesus' resurrection. This means that we have to take God's part in protesting against the violence and the suffering that seem to be an acceptable part of today's world. As Christians we have to make our protest against death in the midst of life. Death is not just a fate that we meet at the end of life. We see death all around us in the midst of life. This point was made movingly by a German theologian in an Easter sermon:

"Death is an evil power now, in life's very midst. It is the economic death of the person we allow to starve; the political death of the people who are oppressed; the social death of the disadvantaged; the noisy death that strikes through bombs and torture, and the soundless death of the apathetic soul."

To accept this litany of death as inevitable is to empty the resurrection of its power for us today. A resurrection faith faces the cross and protests against the finality of that violence. It educates us to see as God sees, to act as so many of God's chosen people act today when, with enormous courage, they refuse to genuflect to the powers of darkness that use suffering and death as their tools to keep power. The resurrection of Jesus is a proclamation that this outcast from Galilee is the beloved Son of God who cannot be held by death. Someone else took action. Jesus did not raise himself. He was raised from the dead by God. The truth that God raised Jesus from the dead gives hope and comfort to all who need this miracle repeated in the midst of life. We are called to believe that God's work continues today, not least because Jesus' words, "I am the Resurrection and the Life", continues to be proclaimed today. As we celebrate the resurrection today, let us pray that we may see more of the light of the resurrection in the lives and work of those around us. Let us rejoice that Jesus is risen. May we continue to hope that one day we will share in his resurrection and proclaim it by living out our faith in him every day of our lives.

**LEIGH  
PASTORAL AREA**  
[www.leighpastoralarea.co.uk](http://www.leighpastoralarea.co.uk)

**St. Edmund  
Arrowsmith  
Parish**

**St. Joseph,  
Sacred Heart,  
Twelve Apostles,  
and  
Our Lady of the  
Rosary  
churches**



## NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ST JOSEPH'S MASS INTENTIONS

Audrey Ashurst, Brian Ashton, Raymond Buck, Margaret Virginia Coyle, Robert Dowling, Terry Fallon, Michael Fallon, Elizabeth Frost, Molly & Fred Griffiths, Brenda Hoffman, Raymond Jarvis, Michael Mullowney, Josiah Naylor, Collette O'Brien, Margaret O'Farrell, Margaret & Frank Pemberton, Maurice Phillips, Norman Russell, Mary Walsh, Jack Withington, Kathleen, Sylvia Withington, Special Intention & Thanksgiving Our Lord Our Lady & All Saints, Special Intention, Special Intention - Exam Success, Special Intention & Thanksgiving Carlo, Angiola, Annitta & Lewis Manfredi, St Blaise & St Theresa

### CHARITY EVENT

In August of this year one of our young parishioners will be going to Peru to take part in a community project. He will be going with Greater Manchester West Scouts and during the course of the three week visit he will be helping to construct water irrigation channels for a small village in the Andes. In order to take part in this expedition, Lewis needs to raise a £3,000 contribution towards the cost of the trip. In May he will be doing a sponsored climb of the national three peaks of Britain. If you would consider sponsoring him to complete this challenge he will be at the back of church with his sponsor from this Sunday and next Sunday. Also on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> he will be holding a cake sale to raise funds for the trip.

### TWELVE APOSTLES CLUB

NO Bingo this Wednesday. HCPT fundraising Concert on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May featuring 'Retronotes' an old fashioned Banjo and Eukele Band from 7.30pm. Spring Craft Fair on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May from 5pm a fundraiser for the Guides. Ladies Pamper evening for Charity free entry Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April from 7pm.

### WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE

If anyone would like us to take petitions to Our Lady's Shrine please pass them to us and we will be happy to take them: we will be remembering all parishioners in our Masses and prayers.

### INSTALLATION OF THE NEW ARCHBISHOP OF LIVERPOOL

Those who asked for tickets last weekend have all received a place in the Cathedral for the installation. We still have 18 tickets if anyone else would like to go to the celebration. The tickets are available on a first come first served basis from Fr Paul, Fr Dave or Fr Kieran.



Pope Francis<sup>†</sup>@Pontifex

Apr 15  
Each encounter with Jesus changes our life.

Apr 14  
Holy Week is a good occasion to go to confession and to take up the right path again.

Apr 12  
How beautiful it is to stand before the Crucifix, simply to be under the Lord's gaze, so full of love. (EG 264)

Apr 11  
Only trust in God can transform doubts into certainty, evil into good, night into radiant dawn.

## HOLY LAND EASTER CARDS

About 40 cards were sent to Jerusalem last week also some cards from St. Margaret Clitherow parish to Catholic churches in the Holy Land. The airmail postage cost was £10.15. Generous donations were received, leaving £32 for the Good Friday Holy Places collection.

### HELP

A wardrobe and a chest of drawers are needed for a family in need.

Please ring Sr Megan if you can help on 01942 683554.

### Why do we have eggs at Easter?

Eggs are traditionally a forbidden food during Lent, making them a welcome return to the menu on Easter Day.

Why do we give eggs at Easter?

The custom of giving eggs at Easter celebrates new life. We remember that Jesus, after dying on the cross, rose from the dead. Through His resurrection, Jesus defeated death and sin and offers people the promise of eternal life.

### What were the first Easter eggs like?

The first eggs given at Easter were birds eggs. These eggs were painted in bright colours to give them further meaning as a gift.

### An Anglo-Saxon legend - the Easter bunny and eggs

An Anglo-Saxon legend tells how the Saxon goddess **Eostre** found a wounded bird and transformed it into a hare, so that it could survive the Winter. The hare found it could lay eggs, so it decorated these each Spring and left them as offering to the goddess.

### Pace Egging

#### What are Pace Eggs?

Pace Eggs are hard boiled eggs with patterned shells, they are traditional in northern parts of England at Easter, with local variants in the name, such as Paste Eggs.

#### Where does the name Pace Egg come from?

The name is derived from Pesach (Passover).

#### The design

The background colour is provided by onion skins with designs created by leaves and flowers placed next to the shell. All kinds of fun are had with the hard-boiled decorated pace eggs.

#### Origins of Colouring Eggs at Easter

Decorating and colouring eggs for Easter was a common custom in England in the middle ages. Eggs were brightly coloured to mimic the new, fresh colours of spring. The practice of decorating eggs was made even more famous by King Edward I of England who ordered 450 eggs to be gold-leafed and coloured for Easter gifts in 1290.

#### Egg rolling

Egg rolling is very popular in England and is an Easter Monday sport. Hard-boiled eggs are rolled down a hill.

Customs differ from place to place. The winner's egg may be the one that rolls the farthest, survives the most rolls, or is rolled between two pegs.

Egg rolling is thought to represent the stone being rolled away from the tomb.



## LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

**PARISH TOTAL** £1,379.61

### RECENTLY DECEASED

Raymond Buck, Robert Dowling, Mary Wood  
Eternal Rest give unto them .....

### SICK

Please remember Baby Kara Hughes, Fr Patrick Shanahan M. Afr., Stephen Crompton, Pat Wareing, Alan Pearson and all who are sick at this time.

### The Choir of Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral

I am delighted to announce that the Choir of Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral will be coming to perform a concert for Leigh Pastoral Area.

**The concert will be held on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2014 at 7.00pm in Holy Family, Boothstown.**

The choir is among the best in the country and has an international reputation, so it is a real treat that they are able to come and perform for us. Tickets and programme details will be available shortly. The concert will include a break for cheese and wine and will conclude by 9.15pm. Meanwhile, please put the date in your diary! **Fr Dave**

The Three Towns Operatic Society

proudly present

## The Merry Widow

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> – Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2014

7.30pm

St. Joseph's Hall, Mather Lane, Leigh. WN7 2PR

Tickets: £11 & £13 Concessions available

Contact 01942 883722

[www.thethreetowns.net](http://www.thethreetowns.net)

Intrigue, glamour and romance, set to Franz Lehar's enchanting Viennese music.

### ST GABRIEL'S, HIGHER FOLDS

During the last 18 months, those who attend St Gabriel's have come to appreciate that we can no longer sustain the church building. The church is now only open twice a week - for Mass on Friday and Saturday evening. The congregation on Saturday evening largely consists of people from across the Pastoral Area with less than ten attending from the estate. The Archdiocesan Surveyor's Report in 2011 advised that the roof of the church needs replacing and the building needs rewiring by 2015 at a cost of approximately £90,000.

In 2011, St Gabriel's Catholic School became the only school on the estate and now serves the whole community. Extensive building work has been necessary to enlarge the school and it had been our hope to include the church as part of this project. However, costs dictated that we site the new school on the former County Primary site at the end of Queensway. Over the last 12 months the Archdiocese has spent over a million pounds developing the Queensway site so that we now have a very good Catholic School to serve the whole community for many years to come. Consequently, the 'old' St Gabriel's School will close and be demolished in June. It

also makes financial sense to close and demolish the church building at the same time.

Following a recent meeting with those who attend St Gabriel's, despite the sadness people feel at the loss of the church, it was proposed that I approach the Archdiocese with a view to closing and demolishing the church at the same time as the school.

There is more to say and I will share this over the coming weeks. Meanwhile, please pray for the people of Higher Folds - especially those who have built and made St Gabriel's their home over the last 70 years. Their realism, graciousness and humility are an example to us all. **Fr Dave**

### Resurrection Light

Risen Christ, when darkness overwhelms us  
**may your dawn beckon.**

When fear paralyses us  
**may your touch release us.**

When grief torments us  
**may your peace enfold us.**

When memories haunt us  
**may your presence heal us.**

When justice fails us  
**may your anger ignite us.**

When apathy stagnates us  
**may your challenge renew us.**

When courage leaves us  
**may your spirit inspire us.**

When despair grips us  
**may your hope restore us.**

And when death threatens us  
**may your resurrection light lead us. Amen.**

Annabel Shilson-Thomas/CAFOD



*He is Risen!*

*Alleluia!*

## MASS AND SERVICE TIMES THIS WEEK

12A = Twelve Apostles, StJ = Saint Joseph, SH = Sacred Heart, OL = Our Lady of the Rosary, StR = St Richard

### Sat 19 April HOLY SATURDAY

12A 7.30pm **EASTER SUNDAY RESURRECTION OF THE LORD SATURDAY NIGHT VIGIL MASS**  
Tommy Dunne (90<sup>th</sup> birthday)

### EASTER DAY

StJ 8.30am MASS  
SH 9.30am MASS Phyllis Waterworth  
StJ 10.30am MASS People of the Pastoral Area  
OL 11.00am MASS Austin Woods  
StR **NO EVENING MASS TODAY**

### Mon 21 April

### Monday of Easter octave

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer  
12A 9.30am MASS before Walsingham Pilgrimage departure. ALL welcome.  
OL 10.00am MASS  
StJ 12.00noon MASS

### Tue 22 April

### Tuesday of Easter octave

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer  
SH 12.00noon MASS Kitty Gallagher

### Wed 23 April

### Wednesday of Easter octave

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer  
StJ 9.45am FUNERAL SERVICE Raymond Buck  
StJ 12.00noon MASS  
SH 7.00pm MASS Golden Wedding Celebration

### Thu 24 April

### Thursday of Easter octave

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer  
12A 9.30am MASS Mary Langan & members of the Langan family  
SH 12.00noon MASS

### Fri 25 April

### Friday of Easter octave

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer  
StJ 12.00noon FUNERAL MASS Robert Dowling

### Sat 26 April

### Saturday of Easter octave

OL 11.00am Exposition & Reconciliation  
OL 12.00noon MASS John O'Grady  
12A 5.30pm MASS May Fairclough (Get well)

### Sun 27 April

### SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR A)

### DAY OF DIVINE MERCY

StJ 8.30am MASS  
SH 9.30am MASS Special intention  
StJ 10.30am MASS  
OL 11.00am MASS  
StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS

**Sacred Heart Lottery** On 4 April the numbers drawn were 4, 6, 8. Still No Winner of £1,130! Last week's estimated jackpot was £1,200.

**Our Lady's 200 Club** £10 No. 341 Mr R Ellis, £5 No. 417 N. Jones, £3 No. 480 M Flannery, £2 No. 495 Mr & Mrs T Ellis

**Bonus Ball** No. 32 D DAVIES

### ST. EDMUND ARROWSMITH PARISH OFFICE

The office for the administration of our parish is based in St. Joseph's presbytery, Mather Lane. Email [stjosephs@live.com](mailto:stjosephs@live.com) or telephone 01942 673517 weekdays 8.30 - 4.00pm and speak to the parish secretary. In case of pastoral emergency only at other times you may contact any available member of the pastoral area team, if necessary even Fr Dave or Fr Paul who are based in St. Margaret Clitherow parish.

### PASTORAL AREA TEAM

Priest: Fr. Kieran O'Grady  
Tel: 01942 673517  
Email: [shleigh@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:shleigh@blueyonder.co.uk)

Priest: Fr. Dave Heywood  
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Deacons: Revv. Tony Arrowsmith, Robert Hewertson

